

NOTES ON THE MYCETOPHILIDAE OF THE GREAT  
SMOKIES MOUNTAINS.

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In June, 1939, Dr. C. P. Alexander collected extensively in the Great Smokies Mountains. The Mycetophilidae were examined by the author and many interesting records were obtained. In addition to the following list of specimens, several new species were found. These will be described in another paper to appear at a later date. The specimens with few exceptions, which are noted, were all collected by Dr. Alexander. The Sciarinae are not included in this list.

SUBFAMILY DITOMYIINAE.

*Symmerus tristis* Loew. Linville Falls, North Carolina. June 21 at an altitude of 3200 feet.

SUBFAMILY DIADOCIDINAE.

*Diadocidia ferruginosa* Meigen. June 6 at an altitude of 5500 feet.

SUBFAMILY CEROPLATINAE.

*Palaeoplatyura johnsoni* Johannsen. June 10 at an altitude of 2200 feet.

*Ceroplatus johannseni* Fisher. June 6 at an altitude of 1900 feet.

*Platyura apicalis* Shaw. June 17 at an altitude of 3000 feet.

*Platyura discoloria* Meigen. Linville Falls, North Carolina, at an altitude of 3200 feet.

*Platyura genualis* var. Fisher. Some 75 specimens of this variety of *genualis* were collected between June 5 and June 21 at altitudes ranging from 2700 to 5500 feet. I believe that Miss Fisher will describe this insect as a new species as it appears to be quite distinct from *Platyura genualis*.

*Platyura inops* Coquillett. June 15 at an altitude of 2500 feet.

*Platyura semirufa* Meigen. June 10 at an altitude of 2200 feet.

SUBFAMILY MACROCERINAE.

*Macrocera fisheri* Shaw. June 5-15 at an altitude of 4000 feet.

*Macrocera immaculata* Johnson. June 10 at an altitude of 5500 feet.

SUBFAMILY SCIOPHILINAE.

*Mycomyia alternata* Fisher. June 9 at an altitude of 5500 feet.

*Mycomyia imitans* Johannsen. June 17 on Indian Gap Trail by

- Cole and Hickman at an altitude of 2200 feet. June 22 on Bald Knob, Mitchell Range, at an altitude of 5500 feet.
- Mycomyia littoralis* Say. June 22 on Bald Knob, Mitchell Range, at an altitude of 5200 feet.
- Neoempheria illustris* Johannsen. June 9 at an altitude of 1900 feet.
- Neoempheria impatiens* Johannsen. June 17 at an altitude of 2200 feet. Collected by M. M. Alexander.
- Boletina notescens* Johannsen. June 5 at an altitude of 4000 feet.
- Boletina notescens* var. Johannsen. June 5 at an altitude of 2200 feet and June 22 on Bald Knob at 5200 feet.
- Synapha bicolor* Fisher. June 18 at an altitude of 2700 feet. Collected by W. H. Harrison.
- Neuratelia scitula* Johannsen. June 16 at an altitude of 3500 feet.

SUBFAMILY MYCETOPHILINAE.

- Mycetophila mutica* var. *a.* Johannsen. Mitchell Range, North Carolina, June 22, 1939, at an altitude of 3200 feet.

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**Polistes attacking Cicada**—On August 4, 1940, I went to Lakehurst, N. J., and while walking to and fro during sweeping activities I suddenly heard a strange buzzing noise in a bush about twenty feet away. Approaching the bush cautiously and spreading the twigs, I discovered a small Cicada fighting off a *Polistes* wasp, the latter was apparently trying to embrace the cicada with its legs, but in vain. Each attack was repulsed by the cicada's violently beating wings. After waiting a reasonable time to see the outcome, and noting the futility of the combat, I picked up both.

Mr. Davis identified the cicada as a male *Tibicen canicularis* (Harr.) and mentioned that it would be very unlikely that a *Polistes* would attack a health cicada. This opinion was corroborated by the fact that this specimen was abnormal, its abdomen being deformed and shrunken.—BORYS MALKIN, New York City.